

Brief Introduction of Nowadays China Wine Industry

Resources from: China wine information website and China wine industry association

China began mass introduction and cultivation of grapes in 2005 when the bloom of Chinese wine industry raised the demand for red wine grapes and white wine grapes.

The planting area became much larger. Totally, 0.42million hectares are plans grapes. In 2007, the wine annual output quantity is 0.67 million tons, with 37.05% increase before 2006. Industrial output value of 14.898 billion yuan, an increase of 22.75%; sales output value of 14.681 billion yuan, an increase of 22.05%. Annual per capita consumption of 0.51 liters of wine, the annual growth rate is about 15%.

Up to the present, China has 60 thousand hectares of wine grape .The main grape regions are Tonghua Jilin, Bohai Bay, Huaizhuo basin, Wuwei Gansu, Ancient Yellow River, Yinchuan Ningxia, Shihezi Turpan Xinjiang and Yunnan. More than 80% of the planting areas are used to grow Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Chardonnay, Riesling and Italian Riesling. About 50% of the planting areas are used to grow Cabernet Sauvignon. In this case, all domestic wines are quite similar in China. The diversification of foreign wines offers more choices for consumers.

China has various ecological environments offers a favorable natural condition for the growing of all wine grape varieties. In the grape region of Tonghua where the lowest temperature is 45-Celsius degree below zero, the climate is cold and suitable for the growing of Amur grape vine. In the grape region of Turpan, the highest temperature is 45-Celsius degree. The grape region of Mile Yunnan has an altitude as high as 1500 meters. The grape region of Wuwei Gansu lies near the desert. The grape region of Yinchuan lies near the mountain. The Bohai Bay is close to the sea. Huaizhuo basin and Shihezi region have a cool climate, while the weather in the region of Ancient Yellow River is hot and rainy in summer.

Top ten production areas

1. Northeast China

The northeast China consists of Jilin, Heilongjiang and Liaoning. Owing to the cold weather, *Vitis amurensis*, a grape that is very resistant to frost, can grow here and the annual output is around 50 thousand tons. The quantity is small, and most of them grow in Tonghua Jilin.

Wine grape planting area: 4000 hectares

Variety: Vitis amurensis, and some other varieties.

Wine type: Vitis amurensis wine and ice wine

Producing capacity: 32600 tons

Main brand: Chang Bai Mountain Wine Group, Tonhwa Winery, Tian Chi Grape Winery, Hua Xin Winery, Hua Long

Main wine producing city: Tonghua - Jilin Province, Changchun - Jilin Province

2. Jiaodong peninsula

Jiaodong peninsula is the largest grape region in China and it contributes more than 40% of the national output of grape. It is an excellent grape region in China thanks to its excellent natural conditions. The soil is suitable and the climate is gentle. It has a lot of sunlight and rainfall precipitation. The main grape varieties are Chardonnay, Italian Riesling, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Gernis, Merlot, Carignane and Ugni Blanc.

Planting area: 17000 hectares

Grape variety: Riesling, Chardonnay, Italian Riesling, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Gernis, Merlot, Carignane and Ugni Blanc.

Wine type: dry red wine, dry white wine, brandy

Producing capacity: 230000 tons

Main brand: Chateau Junding, Huaxia-Great Wall, Changyu, Dynasty, Grand Dragon, Bodega-langes, St. Denis, OLDMAN, Shandong Changchenglong Wine Company Limited,

Main wine producing city: Yantai – Shandong Province, Penglai – Shandong Province, Dezhou – Shandong Province

3. Changli, Qinhuangdao

Changli has a grape history of more than 300 years. It is an excellent grape region in China because its natural conditions are very good. The soil is suitable and the climate is gentle. It has a lot of sunlight and medium rainfall precipitation. The main grape varieties are Chardonnay, Italian Riesling, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Gernis, Merlot, Carignane and Ugni Blanc. The total areas of vineyards are around 5000 hectares and the annual output of wine is more than 60 thousand tons. It takes around 18% of the sales amount of wine in the market of Chinese domestic wine.

Planting area: 7000 hectares

Grape variety: Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Gernis, Merlot, Wine type: dry red wine, dry white wine

Producing capacity: 70 thousand tons

Main brand: Huaxia-Great Wall, Moutai, Changli Xia Du Winery (Abloom), CHATEAU YELI WINERY, DI WANG, Changli Yue Qian Nian Winery Main wine producing city: Qinhuangdao (Changli and Lulong County) – Hebei Province

4. Tianjin

Tianjin is close to the sea. It is an excellent grape region in China because its natural conditions are very good. The soil is suitable and the climate is gentle. It has abundant quantity of heat and rainfall precipitation. The main varieties of grape are Chardonnay, Italian Riesling, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Gernis, Merlot, Carignane and Ugni Blanc.

Tianjin is one of the six provinces that produce more than 10 thousand tons of wine a year, and it has the largest planting area of wine grape in China. It takes the third place in the production of wine in China.

Planting area: 5200 hectares

Wine grape area: 4000 hectares

Grape variety: Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Muscat grape.

Producing capacity: 50 thousand tons

Wine type: dry red wine, dry white wine

Main brand: Dynasty, MINGXING Dry Red Wine, Chateau Rouge (Tianjin)

Winery

Main wine producing city: Tianjin

5. Shacheng Hebei

Shacheng lies in the north of Hebei province, where is hilly and medium warm. It has abundant sunlight and a large temperature difference. The rainfall precipitation is small. The planting of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot has made a success. The output of wine in 2005 was about 80 thousand tons.

Planting area: 16 thousands hectare

Wine grape area: 4700 hectares

Grape variety: Cabernet Sauvignon and Chardonnay

Producing capacity: 50 thousand tons

Wine type: dry red wine, dry white wine

Main brand: Great Wall, Dragon Seal, Feng Shou, Shacheng Zhuangyuan Wine, Chateau Des Champs, Chateau Bolongbao Company

Main wine producing city: Huailai County – Hebei Province

6. Ningxia

This region is a large grape region in the northwest China. It lies on an alluvial plain near the Mountain of Helanshan and the city of Yinchuan. The weather is dry and it has abundant sunlight and large diurnal amplitude. The soil is suitable for the growth of grape. The grape has a good quality. The sugar degree and acidity are high and balance.

At the present time, Ningxia has a total grape planting area of about 3000 hectares, of which 2000 hectares begin harvest and the total output is 15 thousand tons of grapes and 12 thousand tons of wines. Ningxia is

predicted to have 14000 hectares of grape planting area and the output of wine will be 100 thousand tons.

Planting area: 8800 hectares

Wine grape area: 5300 hectares

Grape variety: Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, and Syrah and Chardonnay

Producing capacity: 40 thousand tons

Wine type: dry red wine, dry white wine

Main brand: Dynasty, Changyu, Feng Shou, Ningxia Yuma, HELANSHAN WINERY

Main wine producing city: Yin Chuan – Ningxia Province

7. Gansu

It is a rising grape region. The weather is dry and medium hot and the soil is unfertile. In recent years, the planting of Merlot, Pinot Noir and Chardonnay is popular in a large area. Wines from this region are red, aromatic and round. It is a region of fine wines.

In 2005, the output of wine in Gansu is only 10 thousand tons. Its assets, planting area, the volumes production, sale and profit are all lower than the national average level.

Planting area: 50000 hectares

Wine grape area: 4000 hectares

Grape variety: Cabernet Sauvignon

Producing capacity: 30.8 thousand tons

Wine type: dry red wine

Main brand: Mogao wine, Huang Tai

Main wine producing city: Wu Wei – Gansu Province, Zhang Ye - Gansu Province

8. Xinjiang

The main grape regions in Xinjiang are Turpan and Shihezi. Turpan is surrounded by mountains. The winds are always hot and the air is dry. The highest temperature in summer is 45 Celsius degree. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Grenache and Syrah have been successfully planted in this region. The grapes have high sugar and low acidity, and suitable for the production of high-end sweet wines.

Shihezi has a moderate climate. The rainfall precipitation is medium. The soil contains many mineral substances and there is no pollution. The grapes are excellent. The main varieties of grape in this region are Lungan, Milk, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Sauvignon Blanc and Riesling. There are more than 20 wine producers in Xinjiang.

Planting area: 104,000 hectares

Wine grape area: 17000 hectares

Grape variety: Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Gernis and Chardonnay

Producing capacity: 100,000 tons

Wine type: dry red wine, dry white wine and ice wine.

Main brand: Xintian, Loulan, Xi Yu

Main wine producing city: Shihezi and Turpan – Xinjiang Province

9. Yunnan

This is a unique and rising wine region. Among these wine regions, it has the lowest latitude (25 degree north latitude) and the highest altitude (1500m). It has various climates and the soils are red and acid. It grows the most of the variety of sweet rose. The main varieties in this region are Sweet Rose, Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot.

Planting area: 19200 hectares

Wine grape area: 2000 hectares

Grape variety: Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Muscat grape.

Producing capacity: 20,000 tons

Wine type: dry red wine

Main brand: Shangeri-la, Yun Nan Hong, Gao Yuan, Shen Quan Wine

Main wine producing city: Mi Le, Dong Chuan and Meng Zi County–
Yunnan Province

10. Ancient Yellow River Bed

This region covers Anhui and Henan. It is hot and rainy in summer. The grapes are prosperous but the damages by disease and pest were serious and caused a poor quality. The cultivated area is less than 670 hectares. In recent years, such late varieties as Cabernet Sauvignon were introduced to this region and the cultivation techniques were improved. The epidemic diseases are stopped and the quality of grape is improved.

Planting area: 25,000 hectares

Wine grape area: 2700 hectares

Grape variety: Cabernet Sauvignon

Producing capacity: 30,000 tons

Wine type: dry red wine

Main brand: Grace Vineyard, Grace Man (Gujing Int. Wine), SHEN ZHOU
WINERY

Main wine producing city: Xiao County – An Hui Province, Taigu County –
Shanxi Province, Minquan County –Henan Province